

## June 11, 2026\_ Board of Health\_Minutes\_Draft

Attendance: Shirley Fessler, Catherine Wagner, Supervisors: Rita Metzger, Mike Grambow, Chris McDonnel, Brad Busse, Bonnie Shimulunas. Absent: Dr. Brian Konowalchuk. Also in attendance: Christopher Culotta, Heather Feest, Korina Aghmar

**Regular Business:** Sup. Metzger called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. May 2026 meeting minutes reviewed. Motion by Sup. Shimulunas to approve, seconded by Shirley Fessler. Motion carried. No public comment.

**BOH Orientation Presentation:** (Christopher Culotta-Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services, Northeast Region Director)-

- Culotta provided a presentation on Public Health in Wisconsin. Presentation included information on required public health services, public health authorities, and functions of public health governance.

### **Discussion & Action on Resolution to Support Funding for Local Health Departments:**

- Korina Aghmar explained the resolution to support funding for local health departments. Manitowoc County is legally mandated to provide core public health services, yet current state funding doesn't reflect the cost of delivering these services. Motion made by Sup.Grambow to accept the resolution, and seconded by Sup.McDonnel. Motion carried.

**Public Health Nursing Report:** (Heather Feest, Nursing Manager)

- *Communicable Disease*- Overall respiratory illness levels in state & in the NER are very low and decreasing.
  - Rhinovirus/enterovirus is the most frequently detected in lab testing data.
  - Manitowoc County Monthly CD Report for May: Four RSV Associated Hospitalizations
- Emerging Issue (Ebola awareness): There is a serious Outbreak of Ebola disease in Dem. Republic of Congo.
  - There have been **0 cases in the U.S**, and the **risk to those in the U.S and Wisconsin is low**.
  - Health Dept is monitoring information from the state, and sharing guidance with health care systems.
- *Health Promotion*-
  - Safe Activities and Outdoor Recreation group completed a sports equipment drive.
    - Over 400 pieces of new and gently used sports and rec equipment was collected from community donors. Equipment was distributed at the Farmer's Market. Served over 85 families.
    - There was strong community engagement, with significant interest in future donations. Feedback from participants showed the equipment reduced barriers such as cost and time to being active.

**Environmental Health Report:** (Korina Aghmar, Health Officer)

- Beach monitoring program has started. Samples are taken at 11 different beaches to test for E.coliform bacteria. Encourage everyone to check beaches for any advisories or notices. A link to the Beach Conditions is on Manitowoc County website.
- Currently processing license renewals. Licenses expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - Have sent out around 890 renewal application packets to local licensed establishments.
  - Between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 31<sup>st</sup> have received and processed 368 payments, totaling \$108,107.
  - Any facility that misses the June 30, deadline will face a \$100 late fee.

**WIC Report:** (Korina Aghmar, Health Officer)

- Final April WIC caseload was 1,183 participants. The initial May caseload was 1,143 participants. Assigned caseload for 2026 is 1,205 participants
- The WIC Farmers Nutrition Program started issuing vouchers on June 1<sup>st</sup>, with a benefit amount of \$25 per participant (infants issued when 9 months old). Vouchers can be used at Wisconsin Farmer's Markets and Farm Stands for purchase of fruits, vegetables and herbs that are grown in Wisconsin

**Next Meeting Date and Adjournment:** The next meeting date: 8/13/26, at 5:00 PM in the public health building. Motion to adjourn was made by Annette Kaminski, seconded by Supervisor Busse. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by, Korina Aghmar